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### ADVANCED GRAPHICS AND SOUND CAPABILITIES

### HIGHLIGHT NEW AMIGA™ MULTITASKING COMPUTER FROM COMMODORE

NEW YORK, July 23, 1985 — If a contemporary Leonardo were asked to design a super-microcomputer that combined the number-crunching power of the largest desktop machines with the most advanced graphics and sound capabilities, he would undoubtedly come up with the revolutionary Amiga by Commodore.

Based on the versatile Motorola 68000 microprocessor and bolstered by three proprietary microchips designed by Commodore-Amiga to facilitate sound and graphics functions, the Amiga provides a muscular multitasking operating system and an easy to operate user interface that features multiple windows, multiple screens, icons and menus — a combination of features heretofore unavailable at any price. By using the Amiga chip set to free the 68000 microprocessor from routine tasks, the Amiga is able to perform sophisticated graphics functions while leaving the 68000 free to run applications. This also allows Amiga's operating system, AmigaDOS, to perform several tasks simultaneously.

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In its basic \$1,295 configuration, the Amiga offers 256K bytes of RAM, user expandable via a plug-in cartridge to 512K bytes, giving it more than enough memory to run even the largest application programs. It is further externally expandable to up to 8 Megabytes.

With an available Amiga option, the machine can run the popular IBM® PC business and professional software programs of Lotus 1-2-3™, dBase III™ and WordStar®.

To harness the Amiga's computing power and to maintain a high degree of user friendliness, a two-button mouse is standard as well as a detached keyboard that includes numeric keypad. The Amiga's built-in 3.5-inch double-sided, double-density floppy disk drive offers 880K bytes of formatted storage. An external floppy disk port supports up to three additional drives including a mix of 3.5- and 5.25-inch drives allowing the user flexibility to run application programs in the two most common drive formats. Freedom of choice is maintained in the printing mode as well. The Amiga has both an RS232 serial port and a reconfigurable parallel port which is set up to the Centronics printer standard and will support a variety of dot matrix, letter quality, color thermal, color ink jet and laser printers. The basic Amiga comes with a system expansion port, with full access to the 68000 system bus, in addition to two configurable joystick ports and two stereo audio jacks.

In graphics, the Amiga soars above conventional features because of its proprietary custom VLSI graphics and sound chips. The Amiga has the largest standard color palette available on a microcomputer to date: more than 4,000 colors. Because superior graphics are so

important to natural looking simulations and color presentations, Commodore has engineered into the Amiga the following color modes: 320x200 32 colors; 320x400 32 colors; 620x200 16 colors; 640x400 16 colors; and a "hold and modify" mode that allows 4,096 colors on screen simultaneously.

To take advantage of the dynamic state of video technology today, Amiga does not limit the user to a single video format. The Amiga has three video ports. Port one allows for analog RGB output. This port also supports an optional genlock unit for synchronizing the Amiga with an external video device such as a laser disk or video tape player. A second video port outputs standard NTSC signals for a TV via an RF modulator. Video port 3 is an NTSC composite video output.

Not only does the Amiga outdistance other microcomputers in graphics, but it is the leader in professional quality audio capabilities, including a built-in music synthesizer. This capability includes four low-noise digital voices, each with independently programmable volume, level and sampling rates, which can be configured to provide stereo output.

These sound features are also employed to provide text-to-speech voice synthesis, with unlimited vocabulary and user defined parameters for male and female voices.

Another key to the Amiga's power and flexibility is its multitasking operating system. No longer must a user be confined to doing only one task at a time. For example, the Amiga allows the user to edit a file at the same time another file is being printed out.

Similarly, a music program could be playing two separate stereo channels while objects in the screen representing notes dance across a musical staff. A telecommunications link can be established while the user inputs a new document, etc.

The following Amiga hardware options will be available from Commodore on introduction:

- RGB monitor specifically designed for the Amiga which will contain a speaker and volume control for audio output
- 256K RAM expansion
- RF modulator
- a professional quality music keyboard
- a 1,200-baud smart modem which may be configured to the Amiga externally
- disk drives, both 3.5- and 5.25-inch models

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